

# Regional Conservation Partnership Program

Investing in Minnesota



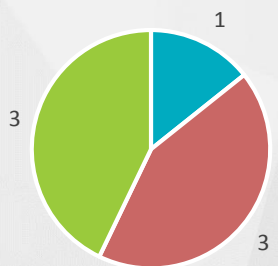
## Regional Conservation Partnership Program

Created by the 2014 Farm Bill, the Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP) is a partner-driven, locally-led approach to conservation. It offers new opportunities for USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) to harness innovation, welcome new partners to the conservation mission, and demonstrates the value and efficacy of voluntary, private lands conservation.

In 2017, NRCS is investing up to \$225 million in 88 projects that impact every state in the nation, including one in Minnesota. Since 2014, NRCS has invested more than \$825 million in 286 high-impact projects, bringing together more than 2,000 conservation partners who have invested an additional \$1.4 billion. By 2018, NRCS and partners will have invested at least \$2.4 billion. These projects are leading to cleaner and more abundant water, better soil and air quality, enhance wildlife habitat, more resilient and productive agricultural lands and stronger rural economies.

### Minnesota Projects to Date

#### Projects by Resource Concern



- Water Quantity/Drought
- Water Quality
- Wildlife Habitat

7

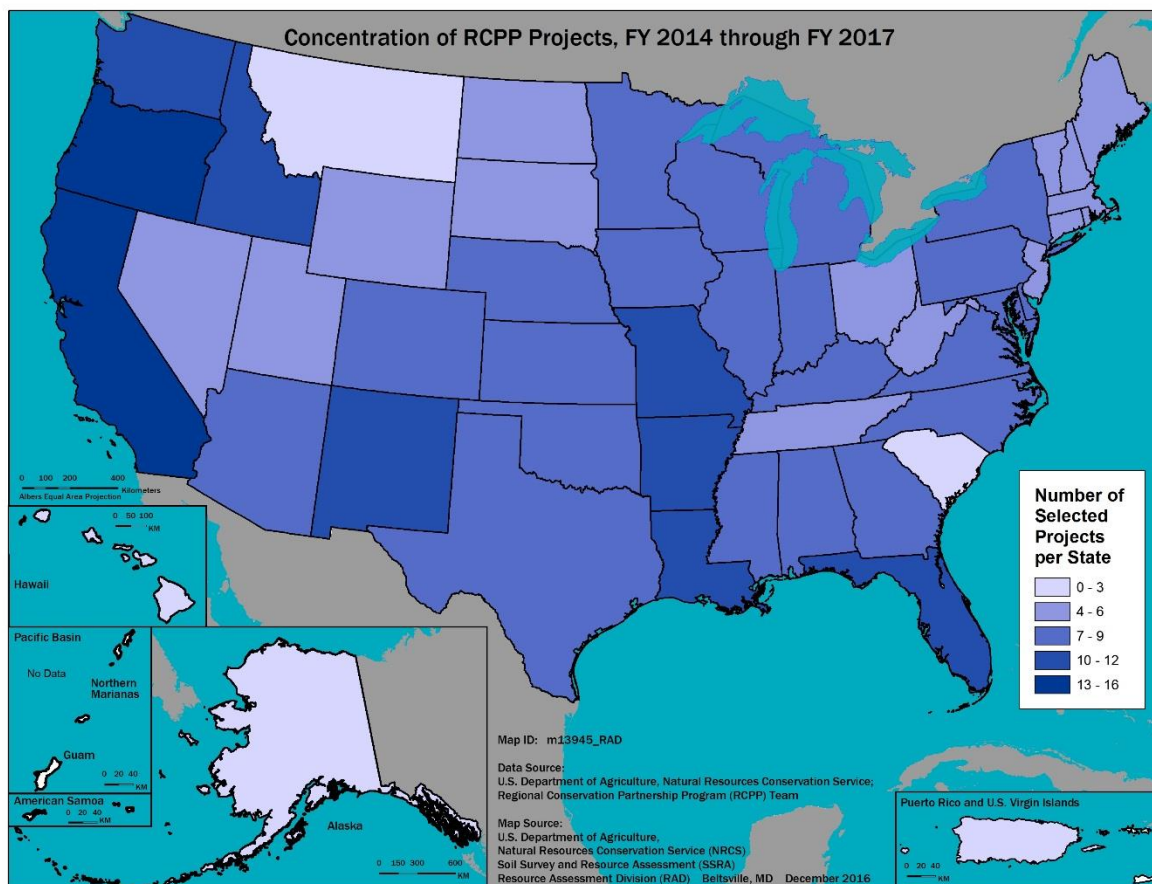
Projects

**\$39.4 million**

NRCS Investment

93

Partners



## Existing RCPP Projects

Year	Title	Funding Pool	Lead Partner	Number of Partners	NRCS Investment
2016	Driftless Area - Habitat for the Wild and Rare	National	Trout Unlimited	30	\$2.9 million
2016	Improving Working Lands for Monarch Butterflies	National	National Fish and Wildlife Foundation	12	\$6 million
2016	Lower Mississippi River Feedlot Management in MN	CCA	Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources	2	\$1.6 million
2014/2015	Red River Basin of the North Flood Prevention Plan	CCA	Red River Retention Authority	8	\$12 million
2014/2015	ABC: Improving Forest Health for Wildlife Resources in MN, WI, MI	National	American Bird Conservancy	25	\$5 million
2014/2015	Minnesota Agricultural Water Quality Certification Program National Demonstration Project	National	Minnesota Department of Agriculture	5	\$9 million

## 2017 RCPP Projects

### Camp Ripley Sentinel Landscape

Proposed NRCS Investment: \$2,873,880 (State)

Lead Partner: Morrison Soil and Water Conservation District

Number of Initial Partners: 11

Participating States: Minnesota (Lead State)

The Camp Ripley Sentinel Landscape includes high quality water features, including 40 miles of the first 400 miles of the Mississippi River and four tributaries; two ecological zones; and thousands of acres of public and private lands. This landscape is one of Minnesota's most important source drinking water protection area; 1.2 million people between Camp Ripley and the Twin Cities rely on the Mississippi for drinking water. The 34 minor watersheds within the CRSL are not confined to political boundaries, hence, efforts across this landscape are critical to protect, maintain, and restore lands resulting in cleaner water, less erosion, high quality habitat and recreational opportunities. The Camp Ripley Sentinel Landscape project, a partnership among 11 organizations, will combine the current use of easements and fee title acquisition with management practices on the landscape to protect and enhance our military mission and natural resources.

